

Claims Amendment

1 1. (Currently Amended) In a computer system having a display device including
2 a display surface controllable by an operating system, a method of operation
3 comprising:
4 reserving a first portion of the operating system controllable display surface
5 for exclusive use by a first program; and
6 rendering contents in said reserved first portion of the operating system
7 controllable display surface, by said first program, excluding all other programs from
8 using said reserved first portion of operating system controllable display surface.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said reserving comprises
2 requesting a window manager to switch to a display mode having a smaller pixel
3 configuration.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said reserving further comprises
2 aborting a responsive request by the window manager to a display device driver to
3 configure a display hardware to said smaller pixel configuration.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said reserving further comprises
2 pre-alerting an exclusive-use display area manager of said display mode switch
3 request to said window manager.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein
2 the method further comprises determining if a first event has occurred; and
3 said reserving is performed only if the first event is determined to have
4 occurred.

1 6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the method further
2 comprises
3 determining if a second event has occurred; and
4 unreserving said first portion of the operating system controllable display
5 surface for exclusive use by said first program if the second event is determined to
6 have occurred.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said unreserving comprises
2 requesting a window manager to switch to a display mode having a larger pixel
3 configuration.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said unreserving further comprises
2 aborting a responsive request by the window manager to a display device driver to
3 configure a display hardware to said larger pixel configuration.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said reserving further comprises
2 pre-alerting an exclusive-use display area manager of said display mode switch
3 request to said window manager.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further
2 comprises
3 monitoring for a request by an application to change a display mode to a full
4 screen mode; and
5 notifying said first program to temporarily stop rendering contents in said
6 reserved first portion of the operating system controllable display surface.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the method further
2 comprises
3 monitoring for a request by an application to change a display mode from a
4 full screen mode to a normal mode; and
5 notifying said first program to resume rendering contents in said reserved first
6 portion of the operating system controllable display surface.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises
2 monitoring for a request by an application to change a display mode to a full
3 screen mode; and
4 upon detecting such as request, intercepting all page flipping calls by said
5 application, and forwarding each of said page flipping calls onward only after said
6 first program has updated a back buffer.

1 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the method further
2 comprises interacting with said full screen mode requesting application to maintain
3 said reserved first portion of the operating system controllable display surface

1 14. (Currently Amended) In a computer system having a display device including
2 a display surface controllable by an operating system, a method of operation
3 comprising:
4 pre-alerting an exclusive-use display area manager of a display mode switch
5 request to a window manager;
6 submitting said display mode switch request to said window manager; and
7 aborting a responsive request by the window manager to a display device
8 driver to configure a display hardware in accordance with said display mode switch

9 | request, to effectuate reservation of an area of the operating system controllable
10 | display surface for exclusive use by a program.

1 | 15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said display mode switch request
2 | is a request to switch to a selected one of a smaller and a larger pixel configuration.

1 | 16. (Currently Amended) In a computer system having a display device including
2 | a display surface controllable by an operating system, a method of operation
3 | comprising:
4 | determining if a first event has occurred;
5 | operating the display device with the operating system controllable display
6 | surface having one or more exclusive use display areas whose contents are
7 | persistently visible if the first event is determined to have occurred;
8 | determining if a second event has occurred; and
9 | operating the display device with the operating system controllable display
10 | surface having no exclusive use display area whose contents are persistently visible
11 | if the second event is determined to have occurred.

1 | 17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said operating of the
2 | display device with the operating system controllable display surface having one or
3 | more exclusive use display areas whose contents are persistently visible further
4 | comprises accommodating an application that operates in a full screen mode.

1 | 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said accommodating comprises
2 | temporarily suspending rendering contents into said exclusive use display areas.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said accommodating comprises
2 interacting with said application that operates in a full screen mode to at least
3 partially maintain said exclusive use display areas.

1 20. (Currently Amended) In a computer system having a display device including
2 a display surface controllable by an operating system, a method of operation
3 comprising:
4 intercepting a page flipping call by an application that operates in a full screen
5 mode;
6 updating locations of a back buffer unused by said application with contents
7 to be persistently visible in an area of the operating system controllable display
8 surface reserved for the exclusive use of the application; and
9 forwarding said page flipping call onward after said updating.

1 21. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:
2 a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming
3 instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the
4 operations set forth in claim 1.

1 22. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:
2 a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming
3 instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the
4 operations set forth in claim 14.

1 23. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

2 a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming
3 instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the
4 operations set forth in claim 16.

1 24. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

2 a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming
3 instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the
4 operations set forth in claim 20.

1 25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

2 a display device having a display surface controllable by an operating system;
3 a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming
4 instructions designed to implement a display device driver to render displays on said
5 operating system controllable display surface of said display device, and an
6 exclusive use manager to cooperate with said display device driver to facilitate
7 exclusive use of at least a first sub-portion of said operating system controllable
8 display surface for rendering persistently visible contents; and
9 a processor coupled to the display device and the storage medium to execute
10 the programming instructions.

1 26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the exclusive use manager is
2 equipped to receive an alert of a display mode change request from a window
3 manager to said display device driver, and in response, upon intercepting said
4 display mode change request, aborting said display mode change request.

1 27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the exclusive use manager is
2 equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full screen mode

3 of operation from an application, and in response, notifying applications associated
4 with said exclusive use display areas to temporarily suspend rendering contents into
5 said exclusive use display areas.

1 28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the exclusive use manager is
2 equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full screen mode
3 of operation from an application, and interact with said application to at least
4 partially maintain said exclusive use display areas.

1 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the exclusive use manager is
2 further equipped to intercept page flipping calls by said application, and facilitating
3 rendering of contents into said exclusive use display areas by applications
4 associated with the exclusive use display areas prior to forwarding the intercepted
5 page flipping calls.

1 30. (Withdrawn) An operating system comprising:
2 a display device driver to render displays on a display surface of a display
3 device; and
4 an exclusive use manager to cooperate with said display device driver to
5 facilitate exclusive use of at least a first sub-portion of said display surface for
6 rendering persistently visible contents.

1 31. (Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the exclusive use
2 manager is equipped to receive an alert of a display mode change request from a
3 window manager to said display device driver, and in response, upon intercepting
4 said display mode change request, aborting said display mode change request.

1 32. (Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the exclusive use
2 manager is equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full
3 screen mode of operation from an application, and in response, notifying
4 applications associated with said exclusive use display areas to temporarily suspend
5 rendering contents into said exclusive use display areas.

1 33. (Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the exclusive use
2 manager is equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full
3 screen mode of operation from an application, and interact with said application to at
4 least partially maintain said exclusive use display areas.

1 34. (Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the exclusive use
2 manager is further equipped to intercept page flipping calls by said application, and
3 facilitating rendering of contents into said exclusive use display areas by
4 applications associated with the exclusive use display areas prior to forwarding the
5 intercepted page flipping calls.